

## THE GREAT NORTHWEST

Interesting Happenings in This, the World's Most Favored Section.

## DEATH OF AN INDIAN HERO

Della Peterson Drowned by Falling off a Wharf—Virginia City Without a Minister—Romantic Marriage.

Fred R. Buser, 20 years old, was drowned in Snake river at Wawawai last week while bathing.

Della Peterson, aged 23 months, was drowned Wednesday evening at South Bend by falling off the wharf near Skidmore's saloon while at play.

Thomas H. Coffman and Henry McFadden, farmers, were killed last week 12 miles south of Colfax, near the head of Penewa canyon, by being thrown from a wagon.

The Idaho County Recorder says: Those who can say that the Lemhi Indians are not becoming more civilized every day? We recently saw a squaw with a sun umbrella which she knew how to use, and yesterday an Indian was preambulating our streets manipulating a palm leaf fan.

The Madisonian claims that Virginia City will soon be without a minister of any kind, and suggests the formation of a church composed of the people, a sort of union of all the denominations and the hiring of a talented, liberal minded, conservative preacher, otherwise the people will have to do their own praying, preaching, marrying and burying their dead.

The body of Texas John, who was drowned last Tuesday in the Duwamish river while attempting to rescue a little Indian girl from drowning, was recovered yesterday afternoon, says the Seattle Foot-Intelligencer. The remains will be taken to Bonney &amp; Stewart's undertaking rooms, where they will be held awaiting the arrival of his friends, who are in the Kenton fields. The unfortunate Indian lived at Dungeness and was possessed of considerable property.

Reports from the Princeton scientific party which left here some weeks since to look for fossils in the Smith river basin indicate that Professor Scott's expectation of finding a rich and unexplored region in that vicinity is being realized, says the Great Falls Leader. The professor's theory that the country between Fort Logan and White Sulphur forms part of the bed of an ancient lake has been substantiated. Specimens of the three-toed horse (genus Amerio-Hisopus), camel, rhinoceros, dog, etc., have been found very perfectly preserved. Perhaps the most interesting fossil discovered is a perfect skeleton of the platomys, an animal of the deer tribe, which is thought by scientific men to be the progenitor of our cattle. A few bones of this animal have been discovered before, but this is the first complete skeleton ever found. Skull and jaws of various indeterminate species have been found.

Billings Times: That there is need for a more rigid enforcement of the law against carrying deadly weapons is becoming more patent every day. Time was in Montana that the deadly sixshooter was a necessary article of apparel, without

which a gentleman was, especially if he were of the cow-puncher profession, not considered attired with sufficient decency to make his appearance in public. Those days have happily gone by. There is now no necessity, there never was any necessity, for the cowardly custom. It is a cowardly habit, and while there are men who carry concealed weapons who are no cowards, the habit springs from innate cowardice. The occasions when weapons are justified in carrying deadly weapons are few and far between, and officers ought to promptly arrest, and magistrates severely punish infractions of the law against the habit. Decency is shocked by the appearance of the gallant cow puncher on our streets, with a mountain howitzer strapped on his belt, and the practice should at once be stopped and the offenders disarmed while in town. It may be all right and possibly necessary to carry weapons on the range, but even there the best common sense discourages the practice; but in the limits of a town the habit is entirely reprehensible, and ought to be frowned down and stamped out.

At Gem on Thursday evening James Doherty of Wallace was married to Miss Amy Murphy of Burke by W. J. Colburn, justice of the peace, says the Wallace Press. There is something of a romance connected with this match, for, while both the contracting parties were willing, like Barkis, the mother of the bride had objections and a way to partially enforce them. Thursday evening Jim had business in Burke and chartered a special conveyance to return to Wallace, and as the machine would carry double he, like young Lochinvar, mounted the swift steed with the heroine alongside of him, and down the steep grade they swept like a flash of light to the J. P.'s office at Gem, leaving an emissary of the R. M. P. far behind in the gloom. As soon as the silken cords were tied safely about the couple by the venerable justice the twin remounted their iron steed and down the grade flew, defiant of pursuit, arriving in Wallace at 11 p. m. The couple immediately took up their residence in one of the twin cottages on West Cedar street recently built by the grocer.

We call him Jones, because that isn't his name. To call him by his real name would be inviting sure and speedy death, says the Bozeman Chronicle. Jones became possessed the other night of one of those things known as a "jag"—a gigantic, juicy, jag of joy, as it were, and stumbled home to his wife. Arriving at his destination, he became possessed of a brilliant idea and proceeded to put it into effect. The atmosphere, he concluded, in the vicinity was entirely too sultry, so he turned on the water from the street washer and seizing the hose began to sprinkle the yard. The force became so great that Jones was unable to control it, and in a brief tussle with the hose he was floored, on his back, and unable to move, while the hose which he could not get away from was speedily and surely drowning him. Luckily one of his neighbors, hearing an unusual noise, was awakened and directed to the place where Jones was taking his involuntary shower bath. It isn't often that a man can rescue a man from drowning on dry land; but Bozeman presents such a case to public view.

Legh R. Freeman in the Gibraltar Farmer: On one occasion I was taking a bath in a creek that put into the Big Horn, and all of a sudden an Indian alarm was

given, a party of warriors swooped down from the hills among our horses, firing their rifles right and left. They killed one man and wounded two others, and ran off a lot of horses. After the excitement was all over one of our comrades came running into camp. He was a short, fat man and he cut a most ludicrous figure with eyes bulged out and every indication of being frightened out of his wits. I asked him where he came from. He said between catches of breath: "Well, you see that tree over there—I thought it was about a quarter of a mile from here, and I undertook to walk to it before breakfast, just for an appetizer. I walked two hours and it seemed to be as far away as ever, and just as I came to the conclusion that it was no tree at all, but merely a mirage, and I was in the act of turning back, that dreadful war whoop was sounded, and, thank God, they didn't seem to be after me at all, though I ran as fast as I could." Another man rammed a cartridge into his rifle, ball foremost. A third man saved his life by pointing a rifle that was not loaded at all at a savage that was riding rapidly toward him to shoot him down. We mounted a party and pursued the raiders, but when we had ridden five miles down the valley the enemy flanked us with a squad from a ravine on the right, and had we not made a quick about face, we would have had our retreat cut off. During a skirmish with the Sioux on the North Platte one Indian talked through a trumpet directly across our camp to his friends beyond, a distance of three miles. He stood on a bluff 500 feet high east of us, while the party that he was directing was on a high ridge on the west. That night the Indians dashed past our picket line, and when inside dismounted to a bugle call and rode rapidly away. The next day they were continually in sight, and one party would frequently signal another by reflection of the sun on little mirrors.

Telegraphy without wires is said to have been accomplished in England. Mr. Preece, the head electrician of the postal system, succeeded in establishing communication across the Solent to the Isle of Wight and telegraphed across the river Seven without wires, merely using earth plates at a sufficient distance apart. It is now proposed to make a practical use of this system in communicating with lightships.

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